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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**Health Technology Work Group**  
**Minutes**  
August 9, 2012

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**Members Present:** Roderick Bremby, Victor Villagra, John DeStefano (for David Gilbertson), Vanessa Kapral, Mark Raymond, John Vittner, Peter Zelez

**Members Absent:** Kevin Counihan, Tim Deschenes-Desmond, Terrence Macy, Lou Polzella, Bobbi Schmidt, Marie Smith, Mark Thomas, Robert Trestman, Cheryl Wamuo

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**Welcome and Introductions**

Victor Villagra called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Members introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes of the July 12 Meeting**

The members voted to approve the minutes of the July 12 meeting.

**Final Review of Health Technology Work Group White Paper**

Dr. Villagra reviewed the changes that had been made to the group's white paper since the last meeting. He said that the establishment of a state Health Information Technology coordinator and accompanying governance structure, as well as a convening forum for Health Information Technology, remain as the first two recommendations. Dr. Villagra said that the current version of the white paper contains an additional recommendation regarding the integration of strategic initiatives, including the Health Insurance Exchange, the Health Information Technology Exchange, and inter-agency efforts such as the Connecticut Agency Data Exchange and the Connecticut Data Collaborative.

Dr. Villagra also addressed the suggested revisions and concerns of other work group members which were raised at previous meetings. Mark Raymond said that the HIT coordinator should be tasked with developing a multi-year plan for the initiatives contained in the white paper.

Commissioner Bremby expressed reservations about the third recommendation on the integration of strategic initiatives. He said that this recommendation includes quasi-public organizations which do not necessarily fit into the HIT governance structure. Mr. Raymond said he thought that the recommendation did not sufficiently explain how these initiatives would be integrated. Dr. Villagra responded that he would revise the white paper by eliminating the third recommendation, but add some elements of it to the first two recommendations.

### **Discussion of Scope and Mission of HIT Business Forum**

Dr. Villagra said that there may be questions from the Health Care Cabinet or others about the relationship between the proposed HIT coordinator and the convening forum, as well as the composition of the convening forum. He asked members for their thoughts on both of these issues. Mr. Raymond and Commissioner Bremby both said that these questions should be left for the Cabinet to decide.

Dr. Villagra asked John DeStefano of the Health Information Technology Exchange (HITE-CT) to describe the work that his organization has been doing. Mr. DeStefano said that HITE-CT is working with hospitals across the state, some of which already have health information exchanges, to integrate existing networks and systems.

### **Future Meetings**

Dr. Villagra asked members to suggest potential speakers for future work group meetings. Mr. Raymond asked about the purpose of hearing from additional organizations, since the work group was prepared to make recommendations to the Cabinet. Dr. Villagra responded that future meetings could be part of an ongoing discussion on health technology.

Peter Zelez asked about the timeframe for work group recommendations and future activities. Dr. Villagra responded that the work group should submit its recommendations to the Cabinet prior to its September meeting, and await guidance from the Cabinet on next steps.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment at the meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00am.